

RAINBOW CLUB

WEDDING CHECKLIST

AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

1. Make key decisions, for example the type of ceremony, wedding theme or colour scheme.
2. Agree a wedding budget
3. It's a great idea to set up a dedicated bank account for all wedding costs.
4. Investigate venues and decide you both agree on and support.
5. Take out wedding insurance
6. Book a church or approve a venue for the ceremony
7. Book ceremony time and date with minister or registrar
8. Give notice at your local register office
9. Book reception venue
10. Start a wedding scrap book with notes, ideas and pictures. This will help you get a clear idea on what you really want, and you won't be swayed by impulse purchased that might do against the feel!
11. Prepare a draft guest list
12. Start looking for your wedding dress; make sure you keep an open mind as something you may have never considered might just be the perfect one! Wedding dresses can take up to 7 months to be made so ensure you prepare as much time as possible when finding your dream gown.

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13. Choose your bridesmaids
14. Get your groom to choose a best man; this will be important as he may need a helping hand when going about his groom duties.
15. Discuss what needs to be done and assign tasks
16. Check passport will still be valid for your honeymoon. If the passport expires arrange for a passport in your new name (will only be valid from date of marriage).
17. Arrange your travel vaccinations and/or visa.
18. Start looking for wedding suppliers – visit, ask questions and get quotes. Look at some of the web directories online to get a good feel of who's who and what they do.
19. Make a provisional booking for time off work for your honeymoon.
20. Check out accommodation nearby for guests.

12 MONTHS BEFORE

1. Choose and order bridesmaid dresses, it's good to leave lots of time so they can arrange to be available for fittings etc.
2. Book wedding transport
3. Book florist – start thinking about your choice of wedding flowers
4. Book a wedding photographer
5. Order your wedding cake
6. Book caterers 6. Book toastmaster (if having one)

RAINBOW CLUB

7. Book any musicians or DJ
8. Book hair and makeup artist - this allows you to really kick back and enjoy your day. They are also normally well-tuned into what works on camera and what doesn't so there will be no shiny faces or mismatched base!
9. Book any other wedding entertainment.

6 MONTHS BEFORE

1. Start to compile a wedding gift list
2. Book honeymoon and travel insurance
3. Confirm holiday leave with work
4. Start looking for wedding accessories – shoes, veil, headdress, jewellery etc.
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5. Book first night accommodation
6. Finalize guest list
7. Order wedding cake
8. Order stationery or make your own – there are amazing wedding blogs to get some DIY ideas that will start the creative juices flowing!
9. Finalize gift list
10. Buy bridal lingerie, remember to then take this along to all your bridal fittings. Suggest your bridesmaids do the same.
11. Start thinking about favours, table decorations, table names and place cards

RAINBOW CLUB

3-4 MONTHS BEFORE

1. Arrange suit fittings for the groomsmen
2. Choose and buy wedding rings
3. Send out invitations to all your guests
4. Agree and finalise all the wedding flowers required for your day
5. Start thinking of what vows and readings you have
6. Start thinking of ceremony music
7. Start looking at first dance ideas
8. Create song list requests (including songs not to play!)
9. Order favours and table decorations if not making your own
10. Buy wedding shoes, remember to fit them on and have a good walk around the room. Remember, you will be wearing these for a whole day and will be on your feet for most of it and you definitely want to be comfortable and happy dancing the night away at your reception. Consider having your shoes hand coloured to add a touch of unexpected colour under your gown.
11. Buy a wedding veil and headdress; remember to hand your veil out a couple of days before the wedding, preferably in a walk room like the bathroom after a shower. This will www.rainbowclub.co.uk naturally work out the creases and make your veil lie in the way it was cut – never steam a veil.

2 MONTHS BEFORE

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1. Decide what vows and readings to have and confirm with minister/registrar
2. Suit fittings
3. Confirm ceremony details with minister/registrar (including order of service)
4. Have trial run with hairdresser and make-up artist
5. Buy a guest book
6. Arrange final wedding dress and bridesmaid dress fittings

1 MONTH BEFORE

1. Choose your wedding day perfume, this can be a fun activity you do with your bridesmaids, meeting in a department store after work one evening and following it up with girly cocktails once you've found the perfect scent!
2. Confirm all bookings with your wedding suppliers
3. Confirm honeymoon booking, timings etc.
4. Confirm timings with the venue – including deliveries and wedding day schedule
5. Buy clothes for honeymoon – remember that if you are having a winter wedding, it may not be cold where you are going, bikinis ladies!
6. Have your stag and hen do
7. Decide who to have as your two witnesses
8. Arrange a date for wedding rehearsal (if church wedding)
9. Contact guests who have not responded to the invitations

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10. Agree and confirm any reception formalities and timings – to include receiving line, speeches and cake cutting

2 WEEKS BEFORE

1. Finalise seating plan and provide venue and caterers with a copy
2. Create place cards and a table plan – there are some gorgeous ideas using items found around the house, or in charity shops such as pegging names to old bird cages etc. so make sure you have a look in magazines and online before you decide.
3. Make favours and any other table decorations (if making your own)
4. Provide caterers with final numbers including details of special dietary requirements
5. Provide the photographer with a list of essential shots – make sure they take pictures of your gown and accessories. Photographers can take some gorgeous abstract shots that you can use as thank you cards later.
6. Arrange to make any outstanding payments required in advance.
7. Start to wear your wedding shoes around the house.

1 WEEK BEFORE

1. Get a haircut (groom) – this allows for any 'slightly too short' cuts to grow out a little before the day.
2. Start packing for your honeymoon
3. Final check for all outfits – everyone to try on complete outfit to make sure everything is ok
4. Put together a schedule of wedding day timings and distribute to the wedding party. Give a copy of contact details for the wedding suppliers to

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the best man – this is a great idea for reassurance!

5. Buy any last-minute items for honeymoon
6. Write thank you cards for your helpers and wrap any thank you gifts
7. Finalise arrangements with hairdresser and make-up artists, re. timings

THE DAY BEFORE

1. Drop off decorations, table plan, place cards, favours and guest book (and two pens) at the venue
2. Take out cash for any cash payments to be made on the day
3. Give rings to the best man
4. Ensure your honeymoon luggage is packed and ready to be collected or taken with you in the car. Don't forget to pack the tickets and passports.
5. Lay out your wedding outfit, accessories, make-up and perfume so everything is ready for the morning (or pack everything up if you're getting ready elsewhere).
6. Speak to your attendants – check everyone knows what they need to do and when.
7. Get pampered – have a manicure, pedicure and beauty treatment (but not a facial!). A massage is a great way for both the bride and groom to relax.
8. Make time to relax, have a nice bath, chill out and get to bed early.
9. Don't forget to set your alarm – although you'll probably wake up early

YOUR WEDDING DAY

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1. Eat breakfast
2. Check that the wedding bouquet, buttonholes and corsages have arrived.
3. Check that the best man has the rings, copies of speeches, vows, readings and any messages.

AFTER YOUR WEDDING

1. Return hired clothing
2. Send wedding cake to anyone who couldn't make the wedding
3. Write thank you letters
4. Clean your wedding dress
5. Order your wedding photos 6. Enjoy married life!